

## Lead Agency Benefits

The Registered Environmental Assessor II (REA II) program provides several benefits to lead agencies that are not available using other professional registrations or unregistered workers.

Among the benefits the lead agency obtains from the REA II program is:

- Registrants possess suitable education and extensive experience performing site assessment, investigation and remediation work.
- The registrant has recent site mitigation project management and direction experience.
- All registrants must have familiarity with the site mitigation regulatory framework.
- Registrants must have knowledge and experience conducting or directing risk assessments.
- Prevents conflicts of interest or agency endorsement by referring regulated parties to the REA registry.
- The REA program enforces performance standards and audits the work of the registrants.
- Ensures a third party environmental agency monitors and evaluates the REA's activities.

The Registered Environmental Assessor II is registered by DTSC to conduct and direct site mitigation and investigation activities at hazardous waste and hazardous substance release sites.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

We maintain records on all assessors in your region. For a list of Registered Environmental Assessors, contact us at:

**REA Hotline**  
**916-255-4699**  
**Or visit**  
**[www.dtsc.ca.gov/rea/](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/rea/)**

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Registered Environmental  
Assessor Program

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# The Registered Environmental Assessor II

## INFORMATION FOR THE LEAD AGENCY



California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency



Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control

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## What is a Registered Environmental Assessor II?

In 1985, Senate Bill 1875 established a program to identify professionals qualified to perform site assessment and mitigation activities at contaminated sites.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) works with other elements of the California Environmental Protection Agency to evaluate Registered Environmental Assessor II (REAI) applications submitted by environmental professionals. We determine whether the applicant possesses the appropriate education and experience in the environmental field to qualify as an REAI.

The REAI is qualified to:

- Conduct environmental assessments
- Direct and perform site investigations and remediation activities
- Evaluate site information and data and render opinions
- Determine the extent of contamination present at a site
- Define the work required to reduce the risk from contaminants present at a site
- Certify that any work necessary to reduce the risk from contamination has been properly conducted and that the work is completed

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## REA Program Objectives

Ensuring that qualified environmental professionals are available to provide critical environmental services for responsible parties and the regulated public is of concern to all environmental protection agencies.

The REA program provides:

- An environmental registration with requirements based upon the needs of the environmental agencies and the regulated community
- Enforcement capability focusing on environmental work, not on a general professional field (i.e., environmental consulting vs. geology or engineering)
- A registry identifying qualified professionals available to the regulatory agencies and interested parties
- A means to monitor and assess the quality of work performed by environmental consultants
- A unique avenue to pursue complaints about an environmental professional's performance or work quality
- Qualified environmental professionals for use at hazardous waste and hazardous substance release sites in California

## Lead Agency Role

One of the greatest obstacles to evaluating an applicant's qualifications is ensuring that

the information provided on the application is factual and does not misrepresent the applicant's work experiences.

Four impartial **confidential** references are used to verify and ensure the accuracy of an application. The program requires that one reference must be provided by an individual at a lead regulatory agency familiar with the work performed by the applicant.

The lead agency reference provides a means to ascertain the accuracy of the applicant's responses to the application. **The Lead Agency Reference does not imply an endorsement of the applicant, the applicant's company, or the applicant's abilities, nor should it be construed as providing a recommendation for the applicant.**

The lead agency reference presents pertinent information used during the evaluation of an application to determine whether the applicant's experience qualifies for registration. This reference also allows the lead agency a means to ensure that only qualified applicants are registered.

It is imperative to our ability to conduct a thorough evaluation of the application that the lead agency provide the reference when requested by an REAI applicant.

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